



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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For Immediate Release: November 18, 2003 News Release No. 2003-65

"ANNIE THE BLOODHOUND TO ASSIST IN THE RECOVERY OF MISSING CHILDREN"

HONOLULU- Attorney General Mark Bennett, The Hawaii Missing Children's Clearinghouse Advisory Board, the Honolulu Police Department and Canines for Kids have joined together to bring "Annie" the Bloodhound to Hawaii to assist in the location and recovery of missing children. Mr. Mike Craig of Hund'stern Kennels in North Carolina donated Annie to the Missing Child Center-Hawaii through his organization "Canines for Kids," which is also providing the training for the police canine handlers. Annie will be assigned to the Honolulu Police Department's Special Services Division Canine Detail. The Hawaii Missing Children's Clearinghouse Advisory Board will continue to support the Bloodhound Project through its fundraising efforts.

"Hawaii has needed an air scent-tracking dog to help law enforcement locate missing children", said Attorney General Mark Bennett. "We are pleased to join forces in this collaborative effort to provide the Honolulu Police Department with this valuable resource."

"Annie will also be used to track down escapees and fugitives; and help locate missing hikers and persons suffering from Alzheimer's," said Chief Lee Donohue of the Honolulu Police Department.

While patrol dogs are considered general practitioners, trained for obedience and bite work, bloodhounds are considered specialists, trained strictly to hunt down people. Bloodhounds are no longer used strictly to work in rural and wilderness environments. Because of their ability to scent discriminate and to work cold tracks, bloodhounds can be used to search for people both in the wilderness and in the city.

"We are grateful to have this opportunity to support the Missing Child Center-Hawaii of the Department of the Attorney General by funding this project," said Sharon Martinez of the Hawaii Missing Children's Clearinghouse Advisory Board. "Having been a mother whose children were abducted, I know how important it is to feel that everything possible is being done to find your children when they go missing."

"Annie and her handlers have received intense training and we are always available to assist them and help them work through any difficulties they might encounter on a track," said Mike Craig of Hund'stern Kennels' Canines for Kids.

For the families of Hawaii's missing children, we all join together hoping for the safe recovery of their children.

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